

## Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /014 R

DRAFTED BY COM/BIC/OED/MEPD/CSATKINS/CF

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COM/BIC/OED/MEPD/JMSANDS, DIR.

COM/BIC/OIM (INFO)

AF/W/GHMITCHELL

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R 261531Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, NI

SUBJECT:VISIT OF CRAIG ATKINS, MAJOR PROJECTS DIVISION

1. CRAIG ATKINS, GS-15 AND STAFF DIRECTOR, MEPD  
ARRIVING LAGOS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AT 1510 HOURS

VIA PA 190. PLEASE ARRANGE TO MEET AND RESERVE ROOM  
AT FEDERAL PALACE IF POSSIBLE.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE INDEPTH BRIEFING BY EMBASSY  
IMMEDIATELY ON ARRIVAL MONDAY IF CONVENIENT TO COVER  
EXACT STATUS ALL MAJOR PROJECTS NOW IN PLANNING STAGES  
OR EARLY IMPLEMENTATION. MR. ATKINS WILL HAVE MADE  
A COMPLETE REVIEW OF ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN  
WASHINGTON SO THAT HE WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS  
APPROPRIATE ACTION BASED ON ESSENTIALLY AN UPDATE  
BRIEFING. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST WILL BE DEVELOP-  
MENTS IN LNG PROPOSALS; GAS GATHERING PROJECT AND  
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL NIGERIAN GAS AUTHORITY;  
REFINERY PLANS; STATUS OF PLANNING FOR PETROCHEMICAL  
FACILITIES (PARTICULARLY NAPHTHA CRACKING OR ETHYLENE  
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PRODUCTION, AND FERTILIZER); GENERAL CONSTRUCTION;

LATE DEVELOPMENTS, IF ANY, IN DISCUSSIONS LEADING TO  
DIRECT REDUCTION OF IRON ORE FACILITIES; PORT DEVELOPMENT,

CONTEMPLATED MINING PROJECTS; AND POWER GENERATING  
FACILITIES.

3. MAIN OBJECTIVE OF VISIT IS TO SYNTHESIZE PREVIOUS  
IDEAS FOR U.S. INDUSTRY GROUP VISITATION AND DETERMINE  
FEASIBILITY OF CONDUCTING A SENIOR LEVEL BUSINESS  
CONFERENCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IN ORDER TO MAKE THESE  
ASSESSMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, SUGGEST ATTEMPT BE  
MADE TO SCHEDULE APPOINTMENTS WITH FOLLOWING OFFICIALS:  
D. O. DEDE, S. A. OYEKAN, AKIN ADEGBOYE, S. B. AWONIYI,  
DR. P. C. EZEIFE. THESE MEETINGS MIGHT BE SCHEDULED FOR  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 AND IF NOT CONVENIENT, EMBASSY  
NEED NOT ACCOMPANY MR. ATKINS. MOST IMPORTANT THAT  
EZEIFE AND DEDE BE SCHEDULED THAT DATE IF POSSIBLE  
BECAUSE OF THEIR PROBABLE ASSISTANCE IN MAKING CONTACTS.

4. FOR DISCUSSING PROPOSED AGENDA IT WILL BE NECESSARY  
TO MAKE BRIEF VISITS TO A KEY DECISION-MAKER IN THE  
MINISTRIES OF INDUSTRY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
PETROLEUM AND ENERGY AND MINES AND POWER. OTHER  
AGENCIES WHICH MAY HAVE INTEREST IN EVENT ARE NISER  
AND THE NIGERIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. THESE ARRANGE-  
MENTS CAN BE MADE FOR WED AND THURS AND SHOULD INCLUDE,  
IF POSSIBLE, AN EMBASSY OFFICER.

5. MR. ATKINS PLANS TO DEPART FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19  
AT 1210 VIA BE 360 IF OBJECTIVES OF VISIT ARE  
ACCOMPLISHED BY THAT TIME. ASSUMING PROGRAM IS VIABLE,  
ON FRIDAY MORNING MR. ATKINS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO GIVE  
PRESENTATION TO AMBASSADOR AND STAFF OF DRAFT PROGRAM  
COMPLETE WITH AGENDA AND TENTATIVE LISTING OF OBJECTIVES  
FOR EMBASSY CONCURRENCE. SINCE EMBASSY COMMERCIAL STAFF  
IS SHORT-HANDED AT THIS TIME AND SOME MEMBERS ARE NEWLY  
ARRIVED, IT IS ANTICIPATED MR. ATKINS WILL HAVE TO  
RELY LARGELY ON OWN RESOURCEFULNESS, BUT ANY SUPPORT  
EMBASSY CAN GIVE WILL BE APPRECIATED.

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**To:** LAGOS  
**Type:** TE  
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